

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for detecting the release of a single-stranded RNA from an RNA duplex which comprises:
 - (a) admixing an RNA helicase with the RNA duplex under conditions permitting the RNA helicase to unwind the RNA duplex and release single-stranded RNA therefrom, wherein the RNA duplex is (i) present in an amount within the nanomolar range and (ii) comprises a first RNA having a first fluorescent label attached thereto at its 5' end and a second RNA having a second label attached at its 3' end, wherein ~~said the first fluorescent label~~ produces a luminescent energy pattern when the first RNA is present in the RNA duplex, which ~~luminescent energy pattern~~ differs from ~~a the luminescent energy pattern produced when the first RNA~~ the first RNA produces when it is not present in the RNA duplex; and
 - (b) detecting a change in the luminescent energy pattern produced by the first label so as to thereby detect release of single-stranded RNA from the RNA duplex.

2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~in step (a) the conditions which permit the RNA helicase to unwind the RNA duplex and release single-stranded RNA comprise the presence of ATP and a divalent cation~~the duplex RNA is initially present at a concentration of 1-3 nanomolar.
- 3-5. (canceled)
6. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~5~~1, wherein the first label is fluorescein isothiocyanate and the second label is rhodamine isothiocyanate.
7. (previously presented) A method of measuring the rate of release of a single-stranded RNA from an RNA duplex which comprises determining whether the single-stranded RNA is released from the RNA duplex at predetermined time intervals according to the method of claim 1, and determining therefrom the rate of release of the single-stranded RNA from the RNA duplex.
8. (original) A method of determining whether a compound is capable of modulating the release of a single-stranded RNA from an RNA duplex by an RNA helicase which comprises detecting the release of the single-stranded RNA from the RNA duplex according to the method of claim 1, wherein the compound is added to the mixture of step (a).